



San Antonio Northeast Rotary Club
Chartered May 19, 1987 - District 5840 - Club #24625
www.sanortheastrotary.com



the Nor'easter



Rotary
Club of San Antonio
Northeast



November 5, 2024

Salsalito Cantina Mexican Restaurant
14535 Nacogdoches Road, San Antonio, TX 78247
Social at 5:30 p.m. - Meeting from 6:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.



Rotary's Four Way Test of the things we think, say or do:

1.) Is it the TRUTH? 2.) Is it FAIR to all concerned? 3.) Will it build GOODWILL and BETTER FRIENDSHIPS? 4.) Will it be BENEFICIAL to all concerned?

Our speaker this evening is Kimberly Torres, with Premier World Discovery Tours. Kimberly has been in the travel industry for nearly 15 years. She previously worked at the Grand Ole Opry, with Princess Cruise Ships, and now with Premier World Discovery going on five years with the company.



Before working in the travel industry, Kimberly worked in broadcasting doing sports and breaking news reports. She interviewed the likes of sports figures like Muhammed Ali and former presidents like George W. Bush and Bill Clinton.

Today Kimberly lives in Houston, but she is originally from San Angelo, Texas where she graduated from Angelo State University.

Thanks go out to Preston McKinney and his wife Anne for arranging for Kimberly to speak with us tonight.

Upcoming Programs

November 12th Bobby Martinez and Carmen Maglievaz
Let's Rodeo San Antonio

Birthdays & Anniversaries

Honorary club member Jan King is celebrating her birthday TODAY. Happy Birthday, Jan.
Have a great day.

Preston McKinney and his wife Anne will be celebrating their wedding anniversary on November 9th.
Happy Anniversary, Preston and Anne.

On November 10th, Becky Robles will be celebrating her birthday. Have a very Happy Birthday, Becky.



At the start of tonight our Happy Bucks pot is at \$1,067. That means if your ticket is drawn tonight and you pull the Joker out of the deck, you will leave with at least \$533.50.

Monday, November 11, 2024 is Veterans Day

World War I – known at the time as “The Great War” – officially ended when the Treaty of Versailles was signed on June 28, 1919, in the Palace of Versailles outside the town of Versailles, France. However, fighting ceased seven months earlier when an armistice, or temporary cessation of hostilities, between the Allied nations and Germany went into effect on the eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month. For that reason, November 11, 1918, is generally regarded as the end of “the war to end all wars.”



Veterans Day continues to be observed on November 11, regardless of what day of the week on which it falls. The restoration of the observance of Veterans Day to November 11 not only preserves the historical significance of the date, but helps focus attention on the important purpose of Veterans Day: A celebration to honor America's veterans for their patriotism, love of country, and willingness to serve and sacrifice for the common good.

Courtesy of the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs



DG Kristen Salazar's November Message

I want to thank all Rotarians who made contributions to the fight to eradicate Polio in October. So many of you participated in events to raise funds and awareness about our efforts as Rotarians to eradicate Polio and it truly means a lot! November is Rotary Foundation Month. This month is dedicated to promoting awareness, engagement, and support for The Rotary Foundation.



Donations made to The Rotary Foundation help fund a variety of programs that support Rotary's seven areas of focus. I'd like to ask all of you to focus on raising funds this month for The Rotary Foundation and educating your members on the various ways to give. Keep in mind that 50% of funds donated to the Annual Share Fund this year will be available for our District to use for grants in three years. It would be great to see your clubs share stories on social media about current or previous projects you've been able to work on due to a District Grant. Some of the projects approved for funding this year will be for water projects, scholarships for high school students, literacy programs, hygiene kits, food insecurity programs and so much more. It's also a great time to contact our District Rotary Foundation Committee and invite them to come speak to your club about giving to The Rotary Foundation and why it's so important. Raising funds is just another way that we are able to Influence Change through The Magic of Rotary!

Blessed Angels Community Center 10th Annual Thanksgiving Giveaway
Veterans Day, November 11, 2024
9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.
14078 Nacogdoches Rd., 78247

A Special Thanks to our wonderful Sponsors & Volunteers

Volunteers please be present at 8:00 a.m.
Continental Breakfast and Lunch will be provided for Volunteers
Thank you for your awesome service to our Community

THANKSGIVING

Volunteer Opportunity at Blessed Angels

Volunteers are needed for the Blessed Angels' 10th Annual Thanksgiving Giveaway to families in need on Monday, November 11th? Blessed Angels CEO & Executive Director Marion Thomas said that she would be humbly honored if San Antonio Northeast

Rotarians would be able to volunteer as we bless those that are less fortunate so these families will have food on the table to say Grace over. Lunch is being catered, so please contact Marion at blessedangelscc.org or (210) 284-4391 as soon as possible if you are interested in volunteering.

Are you interested in reviving the Rotary bowling league?



After our recent successful bowling fundraiser, several Rotarians that used to bowl on the Rotary bowling league asked when we were going to start the league back up. There was a Rotary bowling league for many years, but it stopped during the COVID-19 pandemic. There now seems to be interest in restarting the league. If you are interested, please contact Dan Clark at danclark@ibc.com or (210) 799-4474.

Our speaker last week was Bennie Price, Founder and CEO of Big Mama's Safe House. Born and raised in the Wheatley Courts Housing Projects on the eastside of San Antonio, Bennie overcome a tumultuous past, having been involved in gang activities that led to a lengthy incarceration. Sentenced to nearly a century in the Texas Prison System for offenses including murder, aggravated assault, drugs, and escape, Bennie served 23 years before his release in 2016.



Big Mama's Safe House is a community based non-profit organization that seeks to improve and transform community safety by changing the mindset of potential gun violence victims. Through promoting healthy conflict resolution strategies, providing access to needed resources, and empowering our community to heal we will reduce gun violence through community efforts by confronting its root causes.

After Bennie's very powerful and emotional presentation, club president Russell Sturgeon him with a copy of the Rotary magazine and a speakers certificate of appreciation. Thanks go out to Trina Forcey for arranging for Bennie to come out and speaker to us. All three posed for a photo at the end of the meeting.



World Polio Day raised awareness and funds for the Global Polio Eradication Initiative's work to eliminate the disease. Since Rotary and its partners formed the GPEI in 1988, the number of wild polio cases has decreased by 99.9%. The event highlighted Rotary's continuing efforts toward complete eradication.

Polio remains endemic in two countries, Afghanistan and Pakistan. In 2024, increased case counts of wild poliovirus and the first case of paralytic polio in Gaza in 25 years served as a reminder that until the disease is fully eliminated everywhere, it remains a threat to children everywhere.

Despite the challenges, Michael K. McGovern, chair of the International PolioPlus Committee, said he remains confident as ever that global eradication is within reach. "We're in a bumpy period, but we're going to get this done by continuing to focus on Afghanistan and Pakistan and doing the things that were done so successfully by Rotarians," he said.

The event included videos featuring polio vaccination workers in the field. Urchick said she was inspired by them during a visit to Karachi, Pakistan, earlier this year. "Men work diligently to immunize thousands of children every day at traffic checkpoints, while women go house to house to reach families directly," Urchick said. "Some workers literally climb mountains to vaccinate children in remote locations, and their determination never wavers."

The livestream event was part of a two-day Rotary zone institute. RI Director Patrick Eakes, who convened the institute, said Pittsburgh was a perfect location because it's where Dr. Jonas Salk developed the vaccine. "We realized we were in a unique position," said Eakes, a member of the Rotary Club of Crescent (Greensboro), North Carolina, USA.

Dr. Peter L. Salk, president of the Jonas Salk Legacy Foundation in La Jolla, California, and a part-time professor at the University of Pittsburgh School of Public Health, talked about what drove his father to develop the first inactive polio vaccine. "He just never let go," Salk recalled. "It was his personality to have a dream and get things done."

Salk said his father wanted to make a difference in the world from a young age and became interested in science. After working in the U.S. state of Michigan on an influenza vaccine, he came to Pittsburgh in 1947 to work at the virus research lab and received a grant for polio research from the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis. That led to his work developing the inactive polio vaccine.

Other presenters at the livestream event included 2016-17 RI President John Germ. Several members of Rotary's eradication effort also sent video messages.

In a video shown at the event that was originally recorded for the 2023 Rotary International Convention, Gates Foundation co-founder Bill Gates lauded the commitment toward eradication. "When polio is eradicated, it will be one of the biggest advances in public health in human history," said Gates. The Gates Foundation, a partner in the GPEI, matches up to US\$50 million that Rotary raises each year at a 2-to-1 ratio, which means up to US\$150 million for the effort each year.

Salk, too, said he was honored to be in a room full of Rotary members who have a passion for solving tough problems. "Every time I get together with Rotarians," he said, "I am just uplifted by the quality of humanity that you all radiate and the dedication you put in all the different realms helping the world become a better place."



Rotary leaders, including RI President Stephanie Urchick (middle), and global health experts discuss the future of the polio eradication effort at a World Polio Day event in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania on October 24, 2024.



Message from Maddie in Spain

I wanted to share some photos with you of the guest speakers that have come to my class at Instituto de Empresa in Madrid, Spain. We also held a simulation where we learned how humanitarian organizations build a refugee camp. Finally, a photo of me at dinner with some of my classmates.

As most of you know, the San Antonio Northeast Rotary Club is proudly sponsoring Global Grant Scholar Madeline "Maddie" Aguilar while in Madrid, Spain. Maddie's host Rotary club is the Rotary Club Madrid Serrano.



Even though the Walk to End Alzheimer's has already happened, you can still make a contribution to our club's team by going to the following link:

https://act.alz.org/site/TR/Walk2024/TX-SanAntonioandSouthTexas?team_id=873758&pg=team&fr_id=17962